



U.S. Department of Justice

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## **District Man Sentenced to 21 Years in Prison For Armed Robbery, Other Charges - Convicted in December 2009 Attack Against Four Victims -**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Jamal Hamilton, 20, was sentenced today to 21 years in prison for armed robbery and other charges stemming from a broad daylight attack against four young men in Northeast Washington, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced.

Hamilton, of Washington, D.C., was convicted on February 25, 2011 following a trial in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. The jury found him guilty of armed robbery, assault with a dangerous weapon and various weapons offenses. He was sentenced by the Honorable Heidi M. Pasichow.

According to the government's evidence, at about 10:30 a.m. on December 12, 2009, four young men were walking in the 100 block of M Street NE, headed to the Metro station on New York Avenue. Hamilton and another unidentified gunman pulled up in a vehicle, exited and brandished guns at the four victims. Hamilton opened fire at three of his victims as they fled toward the New York Avenue Metro station. All three of them managed to escape.

Hamilton's armed accomplice caught the fourth victim as he tried to run away. The unidentified gunman then stole the victim's cell phone and wallet. During the struggle, the victim was shot in the back. Hamilton, meanwhile, after failing to catch the other three victims, went after the fourth victim, too. He pistol whipped the man in the face and then stole his shoes.

Hamilton and his accomplice returned to their vehicle and fled the scene. As the numerous eyewitnesses from nearby office buildings and construction sites converged to help the victim, they heard him state that he recognized one of the gunmen because the two had gone to junior high school together. The victim later identified Hamilton after viewing hundreds of photographs. Subsequent investigation revealed that Hamilton and the victim had, indeed, attended the junior high school together.

In announcing the sentence, the U.S. Attorney praised the outstanding work of Metropolitan Police Department Detectives Robert Saunders, James Freeman and Juanita Eggleston; Sgt. Thomas Boone; Officers Thaddeus Modlin, Jeffrey Henderson, Nathaniel Covington, John Allie, Shiela Gary and Joseph Knapp, and Firearms Examiner Carl Rone. He also commended the efforts of those who worked on the case from the U.S. Attorney's Office, including Victim Witness Advocates Debra Cannon, Michael Hailey and Jennifer Clark, the entire Litigation Technology Unit, Paralegal Specialists Tameka Garcia and Wanda Trice, and Assistant U.S. Attorneys Reagan Taylor, who indicted the case, and Cormac Connor, who prosecuted the case at trial.

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